UNITED STATES SHIP LST. 457 Monday (Day) 20 (Date) December (Month), 1943

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	08 38 S	08 38 S	08 38 S
Long.	148 25 E	148 25 E	148 25 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS
(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Anchored as before at Buna Roads, New Guinea, by bow anchor in 17 fathoms of water with 60 fathoms of chain .

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

4-8 Anchored as before. 0347 Observed Yellow Alert at Buna.

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USN.

8-12 Anchored as before. 1115 Main engines started preparatory to getting underway. Special sea detail posted. 1136 Anchor aweigh, underway from anchorage to Cape Sudest, Captain and Navigator at the conn.

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

12-16 Underway on various courses and speeds. 1315 Dropped anchor off Cape Sudest, in 25 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain out to bow anchor.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

16-18 Anchored as before.

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

18-20 Anchored as before.

H. L. Nash Jr., Ens. USNR.

20-24 Anchored as before.

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

Approved:

Commanding Officer

Examined:

Robert F. Murphy

Navigator

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Tuesday (Day) 21 (Date) December (Month), 19 43

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	08 45 S	08 45 S	08 45 S
Long.	148 30 E	148 30 E	148 30 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Anchored off Cape Sudest, New Guinea, in 25 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain out to bow anchor. 0330 Observed yellow alert.

W. P. Ladd

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USN.

4-8 Anchored as before. 0520 Secured from yellow alert.

J. D. O'Brien Ens. USNR

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

8-12 Anchored as before. 0930 Shifted from bow anchor to stern anchor With 400 feet of cable out. 0815 Quarters for muster, all present or accounted for.

William E. O'Neil Jr.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

12-16 Anchored as before. 1450 Got underway and proceeded due south 2000 yards to new anchorage. 1509 Anchored in 23 fathoms of water with 450 feet of cable out to stern anchor.

N. H. Nicholson Ens. USNR

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

16-18 Anchored as before.

H. L. Nash Jr.

H. L. Nash Jr., Ens. USNR.

18-20 Anchored as before.

A. Singer

A. Singer, Lt. (jg) USNR.

20-24 Anchored as before.

W. P. Ladd

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USN.

Approved:

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Robert T. Murphy

Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Wednesday (Day) 22 (Date) December (Month), 1943

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	08 45 S	08 45 S	08 45 S
Long.	148 30 E	148 30 E	148 25 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Anchored as before south of Baker's Jetty, Cape Sudest, New Guinea, in 3 fathoms of water with 17 fathoms of chain out to stern anchor.

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

4-8 Anchored as before.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

8-12 Anchored as before. 0830 Underway and proceeding to new anchorage. 0930 Anchored two miles off Cape Sudest in 20 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain out to the bow anchor.

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

12-16 Anchored as before. Pursuant to orders from ComFlot Seven the following men were transferred to LST 453: Mamot, M.H. 852 34 33 S2C; Joseph, D.J. 861 44 33 S2C; Notkowski, H.R. 869 17 88 S2C; Burke, R.P. 857 97 97 S2C; Poholek E.J. 761 93 39 S2C; Mele, J.M. 809 70 63 S2C; Higgins, J.J. 859 54 78 F3C; Higgins E.J. 629 83 78 F3C; Harris, M. 621 96 43 F3C; Goolsby, J.G. 648 96 71 F3C.

H. L. Nash Jr., Ens. USNR.

16-18 Anchored as before.

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

18-20 Anchored as before.

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USN.

20-24 Anchored as before.

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

Approved:

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Robert T Murphy

Navigator

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Thursday (Day) 23 (Date) December (Month), 19 43

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	08 45 S	08 45 S	08 45 S
Long.	148 30 E	148 30 E	148 25 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Anchored as before off Cape Sudest, New Guinea, in 20 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain out to the bow anchor.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

4-8 Anchored as before.

N. H. Nicholson, Ens., USNR.

8-12 Anchored as before. 0800 Quarters for muster, all present or accounted for. 1100 Exercised at emergency drills. 1118 Secured from emergency drills.

H. L. Nash Jr., Ens. USNR.

12-16 Anchored as before. 1530 Main engines started preparatory to getting underway. 1545 Anchor aweigh. 1550 Underway from Cape Sudest.

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

16-18 Cruising as before on various courses and speeds

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USNR.

18-20 Cruising as before on various courses and speeds off Buna Roads. 1818 Steaming on base course 333 degrees true and gyro, 337 degrees PSC. We are enroute to Cape Cretin, New Guinea.

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

20-24 Steaming as before on base course 333 degrees true and gyro, 337 degrees PSC., standard speed 9 knots (235 RPM's). 2155 Passed Mitre Rock port abeam. Altered course to 343 degrees true and gyro.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

Approved:

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Friday (Day) 24 (Date) December (Month), 1943

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	06 40 S	06 40 S	06 40 S
Long.	147 51 E	147 51 E	147 51 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Steaming as before, in Convoy formation with LST 452 as guide. We are lead ship in column two. Other ships in convoy are LST's 454, 456, 22, 204, and YO 59. Escort consists of two Destroyers and two Patrol Craft. Ship is darkened and in material condition "Baker", condition of readiness two. Enroute to Cape Cretin, New Guinea.

H. L. Nash Jr., Ens. USNR.

4-8 Steaming as before on base course 343 degrees true and gyro. 0415 Speed reduced to one third 0615 Altered course to 020 degrees true and gyro and increased speed to standard. 0630 Condition 1-M posted, for beaching. Steaming on various courses and speeds approaching beach at Cape Cretin. 0740 Beached at slip #6 at Cape Cretin with 600 feet out to the stern anchor.

Robert T. Murphy Lt. (jg) USN.

8-12 Beached as before. Crew mustered at quarters. 0820 Started loading cargo.

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USNR.

12-16 Beached as before. Loading continuing.

Charles Ellington Parker Jr., Ens. USNR.

16-18 Beached as before.

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

18-20 Beached as before.

Robert T. Murphy Lt. (jg) USNR.

20-24 Beached as before.

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USN.

Approved:

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Robert T. Murphy.

Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Saturday (Day) 25 (Date) December (Month), 1943

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	06 40 S	06 40 S	06 38 S
Long.	147 51 E.	147 51 E	148 00 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Beached as before at Cape Cretin, taking on equipment for Cape Gloucester invasion. Other LST's present are 452, 454, 456, 22, 204.

Robert T. Murphy, Lt. (jg) USNR.

4-8 Beached as before. 0521 Red air alert signalled. Sounded general quarters. 0635 Secured from general quarters.

H. L. Nash Jr., Ens. USNR.

8-12 Beached as before.

Robert T. Murphy, Lt. (jg) USNR.

12-16 Beached as before. 1230 Made all preparations for retracting from beach. 1314 Ramp and bow doors secured for sea. 1332 REtracted from beach and proceeding to anchorage. Captain conning. 1342 Anchored in 12 fathoms of water with 50 fathoms of chain out to the bow anchor 1406 Underway to shift anchorage berths. 1412 Anchored in 17 fathoms of water with 35 fathoms of chain out to the bow anchor, off Cape Cretin, New Guinea. 1445 Exercised at general quarters. 1515 Secured from general quarters.

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USN.

16-18 Anchored as before. 1705 Started main engines and underway to anchorage off Megim Island. 1726 Anchored in 65 fathoms of water with 100 fathoms of chain out to bow anchor.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

18-20 Anchored as before. 1915 Started main engines preparatory to getting underway Underway in convoy formation for Cape Gloucester. LST 452 is convoy guide and leading starboard column. Other LST's in convoy are 454 456 465 22 and 26. We are travelling information dog, base course 050 degrees true and gyro, and standard speed 9 knots (230 RPM's).

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

20-24 Steaming as before. 2100 Course altered to 005 degrees true and gyro. 2105 Altered course to 354 degrees true and gyro. 2300 Changed course to 326 degrees true and gyro.

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

Approved:

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Sunday (Day) 26 (Date) December (Month), 1943

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	05 20 S	05 20 S	05 20 S
Long.	148 20 E	148 30 E	148 25 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Underway as before on base course 324 degrees true and gyro through Vitiaz Strait, off New Guinea coast. We are in convoy of seven LST's with LST452 as guide, and leading one column, we are leading second column. 0245 Altered course to 000 degrees true and gyro.

J. D. O'Brien Ens. USNR
J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

4-8 Steaming as before. 0530 Altered course to 054 degrees true and gyro. 0618 Altered course to 089 degrees true and gyro. 0703 Altered course to 083 degrees true and gyro. General Quarters has been stationed. 0724 Reduced speed to two thirds.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

8-12 Steaming as before. 0900 Steaming on various courses and speeds as we approach Transport area. Evidence of action ahead with large quantities of smoke And what appear to be bombs from enemy aircraft in vicinity of advance units. Cruisers, Destroyers, APD's, and LCI's of previous echelons passed us returning from beach.

H. L. Nash, Jr.
H. L. Nash, Jr., Ens. USNR.

12-16 Approaching transport area. 1330 Waiting for LST's on beach to retract. 1345 On way to beach. 1405 Beached at yellow beach #2 in assigned slot. 1410 Notified by General to retract and beach at yellow beach #1, instructions confirmed on Radio. 1413 Retracted and on way to yellow beach #1. 1437 Beached at yellow #1 between LST's 456 and 454. Air attack while approaching beach, concentrated on LST's that had just left Beach and were out of harbor. No apparent damage to our ships. Several enemy aircraft shot down. 1520 Unloading proceeding after clearing beach.

Robert T. Murphy
Robert T. Murphy, Lt. (jg) USNR.

16-18 Beached as before. Unloading continuing. 1630 Under air attack.

W. P. Ladd
W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USNR.

18-20 Beached as before. 1820 Retracted and proceeding out of harbor. 1850 Formed into convoy our position behind LST 466, guide. Other ships in convoy are LST's 454, 456, 452, 465, 22, 26. Base course is 280 degrees true and gyro, standard speed is 9 1/2 knots.

Robert T. Murphy
Robert T. Murphy, Lt. (jg) USNR.

20-24 Steaming as before, in material condition "Baker", condition of readiness two. 2225 Base course changed to 270 degrees true and gyro.

N. H. Nicholson Ens. USNR
N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

Approved:

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Robert T. Murphy
Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Monday (Day) 27 (Date) December (Month), 1943

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	06 10 S	06 45 S	08 03
Long.	148 10 E	148 15 E	148 10 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Steaming as before, on base course 270 degrees true and gyro. Standard speed is 9 1/2 knots. Ship darkened and in material condition "Baker". 0001 Changed course to 234 degrees true and gyro. 0050 Altered course to 190 degrees true and gyro. 0059 Course altered to 180 degrees true and gyro. 0316 Changed course to 143 degrees true and gyro.

Robert T. Murphy, Lt. (jg) USNR.

4-8 Steaming as before. 0405 Shifted to hand steering due to telemotor failure. 0700 Changed course to 174 true and gyro, 169 PSC.

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USN.

8-12 Underway as before. 0815 Quarters for muster, all hands present or accounted for. 0930 Altered course to 215 degrees true and gyro, 204 degrees PSC. 0945 Shifted to Telemotor steering.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

12-16 Steaming as before. 1348 Altered base course to 132 degrees true and gyro, 194 degrees PSC. 1430 Base course altered to 132 degrees true and gyro, 119 degrees PSC.

H. L. Nash Jr., Ens. USNR.

16-18 Steaming as before.

Robert T. Murphy, Lt. (jg) USNR.

18-20 Cruising as before. 1840 Changed course to 162 degrees true and gyro, 134 degrees PSC.

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USNR.

20-24 Steaming as before. 2005 Altered course to 150 degrees true and gyro. Column on starboard fell in astern of our column, formation "Dog". Passed Mitre Rock abeam, distance 2000 yards. 2238 Sighted Margaret Shoal light bearing 148 degrees true. 2325 Course altered to 123 degrees true and gyro. 2346 Altered course to 132 degrees true and gyro. We are approaching Buna Roads.

William E. O'neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

Approved:

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Robert T. Murphy

Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Tuesday (Day) 28 (Date) December (Month), 1943

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	08 35 S	08 35 S	08 35 S
Long.	148 30 E	148 30 E	148 30 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Cruising on various courses and speeds as we approach Buna. 0002 Dropped bow anchor in 25 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain out, 4 miles off Buna New Guinea.

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

4-8 Anchored as before. 0415 Message from Flag to proceed to anchorage at Cape Sudest. 0455 Underwayin formation with LST 466 as guide. 0600 Anchored as ordered by guide, with 75 fathoms of chain out to bow anchor.

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

8-12 Anchored as before. 0800 Held quarters for muster, no absentees.

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USN.

12-16 Anchored as before.

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

16-18 Anchored as before. Piped special sea detail, and started main engines. 1613 Anchor aweigh Underway to Jetty "B" Cape Sudest, on various courses and speeds. 1714 Anchored south of Jetty "B", in 4 1/4 fathoms of water with 20 fathoms of chain out to bow anchor. 1716 Secured main engines and special sea detail.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

18-20 Anchored as before.

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

20-24 Anchored as before.

H. L. Nash Jr., Ens. USNR.

Approved:

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Navigator

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Wednesday (Day) 29 (Date) December (Month), 1943

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	08 35 S	08 35 S	08 35 S
Long.	148 27 E	148 27 E	148 27 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Anchored as before south of Jetty "B" Cape Sudest, New Guinea.

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

4-8 Anchored as before. 0630 Made all preparations to get underway to beach. 0650 Underway on various courses and speeds proceeding to beach. Captain at the conn, executive officer on bridge. 0731 Let stern anchor go. 0734 Beached at slip #4, Cape Sudest, with 400 feet of cable out to stern anchor.

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USNR.

8-12 Beached as before. Loading of ship in process.

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

12-16 Beached as before.

W. P. Ladd, Lt. (jg) USN.

16-18 Beached as before.

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

18-20 Beached as before.

H. L. Nash Jr., Ens. USNR.

20-24 Beached as before. Loading of ship continuing. 2200 Completed loading of ship.

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

Approved:

Commanding Officer

Examined:

Robert T. Murphy
Navigator

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Thursday (Day) 30 (Date) December (Month), 1943

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	08 35 S	08 35 S	08 35 S
Long.	148 27 E	148 30 E	148 30 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Beached as before at slip #4, Cape Sudest, New Guinea.

Robert T. Murphy, Lt. (jg) . USNR.

4-8 Beached as before. 0712 Started main engines preparatory to getting underway. Set special sea detail. 0755 Retracting from beach, Captain and Executive officer on the conn.

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR

J. D, O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

8-12 Underway on various courses and speeds from beach. 0830 Anchored in 25 fathoms of water with 85 fathoms of chain out to the bow anchor. 0830 Crew mustered on stations, all present.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

12-16 Anchored as before. 1447 Underway to new anchorage. Lying to awaiting signal from guide.

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

16-18 Lying to as before. 1620 Dropped anchor in 25 fathoms of water with 75 fathoms of chain out to bow anchor. 1758 Underway to form up in column.

Robert T. Murphy, Lt. (jg) . USNR.

18-20 Underway as before. Secured special sea detail, normal cruising, condition of readiness two, on duty. 1915 dropped anchor off Buna Roads.

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

20-24 Anchored as before. 2200 Main engines started preparatory to getting underway, heaving in bow anchor. 2230 Underway in column open order with LST 459 is guide. We are third ship in column. Other LST's in convoy are 204, 465, 22. Base course 325 degrees true and gyro.

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

Approved:

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Robert T. Murphy

Navigator.

UNITED STATES SHIP LST 457 Friday (Day) 31 (Date) December (Month), 1943

Zone description -10

Position	0800	1200	2000
Lat.	07 10 S	06 30 S	05 50 S
Long.	148 40 E	148 00 E	147 40 E

OPERATIONAL REMARKS

(WAR DIARY)

0-4 Steaming as before on base course, 328 degrees true and gyro, standard speed 9 knots (235 RPM's). In convoy formation "Dog" with LST 459 as guide. Other ships in convoy are LST's 26, 465, 204. We have four Destroyer Escorts, USS Bush, USS Mullany, USS Bache, USS AMMEN. Ship is darkened and in material condition "Baker", condition of readiness two. 0210 Altered course to 005 degrees true and gyro. 0245 Passed Mitre Rock abeam distance 2 miles. 0330 Altered course to 312 degrees true and gyro.

William E. O'Neil Jr., Ens. USNR.

4-8 Steaming as before. 0735 Changed base course to 035 degrees true and gyro.

N. H. Nicholson, Ens. USNR.

8-12 Steaming as before. Due to Telemotor failure we are on hand steering. 1130 Signal from guide to form 160 degrees relative bearing on guide. 1145 Course altered to 354 degrees true and gyro.

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

12-16 Steaming as before. 1312 Sounded general quarters. 1330 Secured from general quarters. 1334 Exercised at Fire Drill. 1338 Secured from fire drill. 1427 Generator temporarily out of commission. 1431 Generator again working properly. 1437 Returned to telemotor steering. 1512 Altered course to 325 degrees true and gyro, 330 degrees PSC.

J. D. O'Brien, Ens. USNR.

16-18 Steaming as before. Submarine contact by destroyer escort. General Quarters sounded. Destroyer dropped several depth charges off our port quarter, results unknown. 1635 Secured from general quarters. 1715 Changed formation with guides bearing 090 degrees relative, to the right. 1720 Telemotor failed again, we have shifted to hand steering.

Charles Ellington Parker Jr., Ens. USNR.

18-20 Steaming as before. 1805 Exercised at general quarters. 1950 Secured from general quarters.

H. L. Nash Jr., Ens. USNR.

20-24 Steaming as before. 2110 Course altered to 000 degrees true and gyro, 003 degrees PSC.

W. G. Beville, Ens. USNR.

Approved:

Commanding Officer.

Examined:

Robert T. Murphy

Navigator.